

10/528354

JC05 Rec'd PCT/PTO 18 MAR 2005

CLAIMS

1. A retainer for an adjustment device for an over-centre fastener for securing and clamping two parts (11, 12) together by applying a pulling force between said parts by means of a lever (30), said adjustment device including an externally threaded member (27a) and an internally threaded member (23) rotatable relative to one another, said internally threaded member being a conventional lock nut (23) having a friction increasing insert (24) and being unrotationally held by a structure (31, 33) movable with the lever (30), characterized in that said structure is a bent sheet metal structure (31, 33) having a generally inverted U-shaped portion including opposed flange portions (31a, 31b) and a web portion (31c), the flange portions being linked to a respective flange portion (30a, 30b) of the lever (30) and the web portion (31c) carrying an integral extension (33), a first portion (33a) of said extension being bent at substantially 90° so as to extend along and abut a respective forwardly directed edge (34) of the flange portions (30a, 30b), a second portion (33b) of said extension being bent at 90° in relation to the first portion, and a third portion (33c) of said extension being further bent at 90° in relation to the second portion (33b); flap portions (33f) originally extending in opposite directions from the third portion (33c) being bent towards the first portion (33a) so as to be mutually parallel, thus forming a nut retaining pocket (35).

2. The retainer according to claim 1, characterized in that the distance between the flap portions (33f) is slightly greater than the width between opposed surfaces (23a, 23b) of a lock nut (23) received within the pocket (35) so as to unrotationally keep the nut therein.

3. The retainer according to claim 1 or 2,
characterized in that the holes (36, 37) for the
threaded portion (27a) of the stem (27) are provided in the
third and first portions (33c, 33a) of the extension (33).

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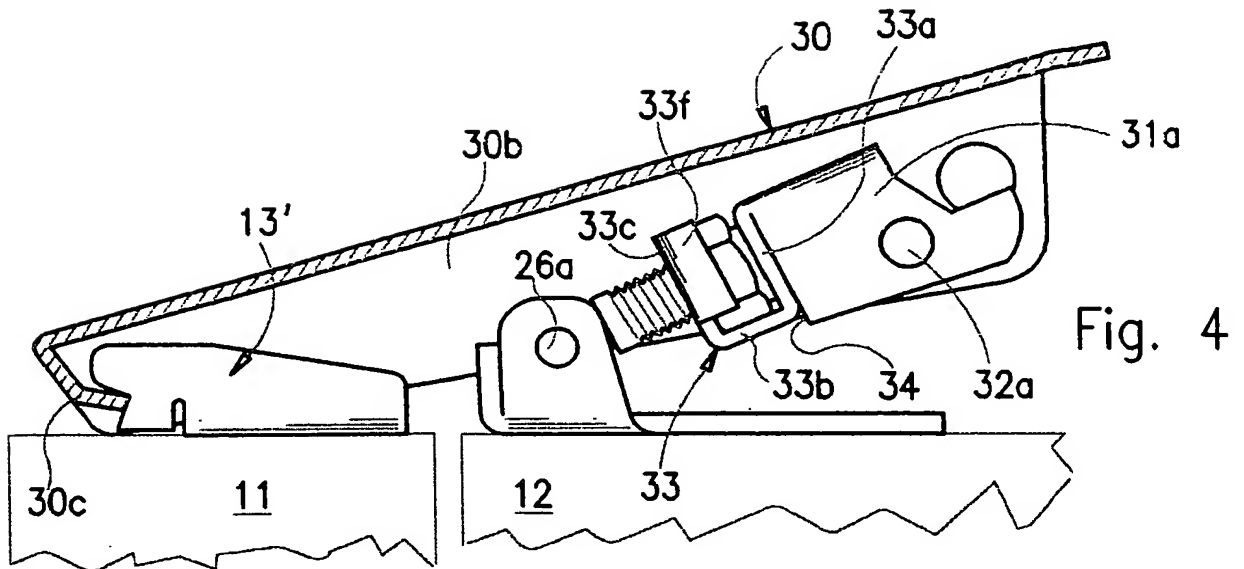


Fig. 4

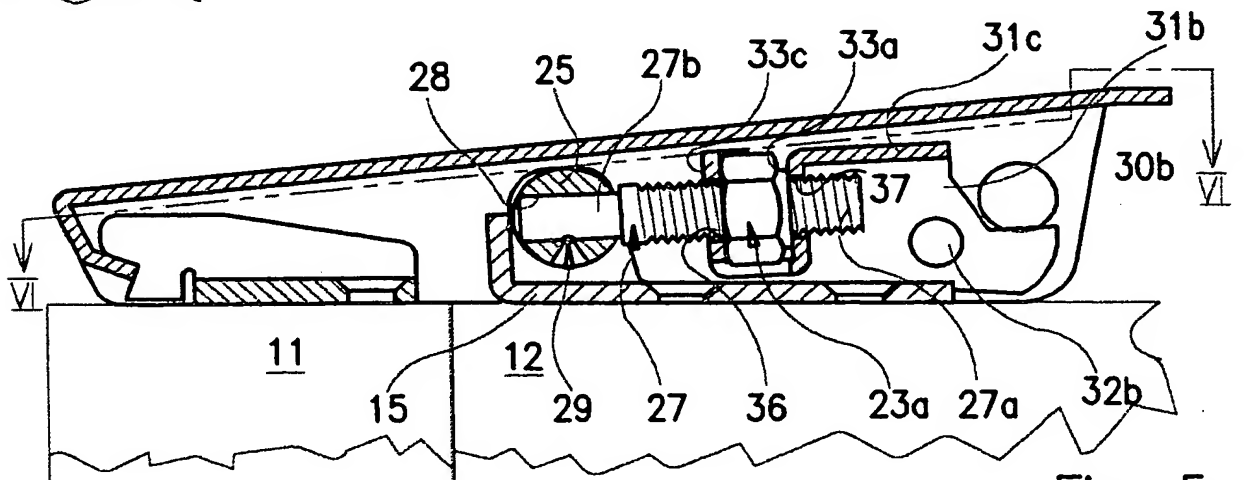


Fig. 5

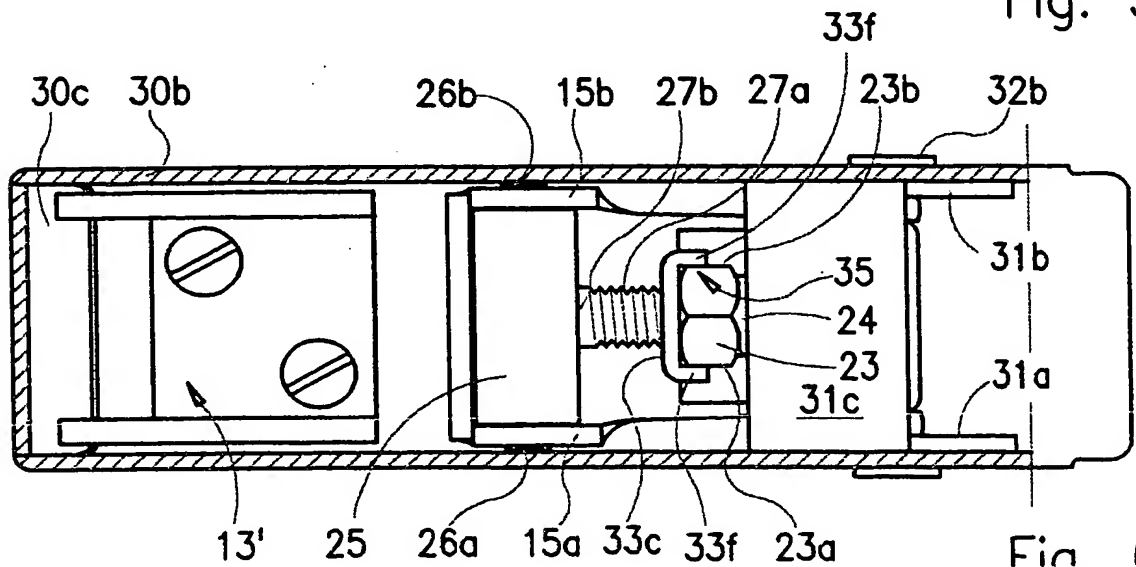


Fig. 6